



Victory Times



Vol. II, Issue 64

Telling the Camp Victory story

June 13, 2006

Webcast ensures graduations go unmissed

Story and photo by Lance Cpl.

Drew Hendricks

MNC-I PAO

A graduation can be a proud and emotional moment for a parent. Watching their child walk across the stage and receive their diploma, a time that most parents would not choose to miss. For some it cannot be helped, duty calls and they are forced to leave even during very important times. In this instance however, it was helped. Even though a father is thousands of miles away he was still able to be there for his son, without ever leaving Iraq.

It was all made possible through the Department of Defense Graduation Web Cast and Video Tele-conference Program.

Master Chief Petty Officer Stephen G. Boneau, officer-in-charge, Detachment 20, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 8, Task Force Troy, was offered the opportunity to watch his son, Brian W. Boneau graduate from Stephen Dacatur High School at Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sic-

ily, Italy, Saturday.

After the ceremony Boneau and his son each sat down in front of a video screen and a camera to talk in real time, face to face, even while separated by thousands of miles.

"It was incredible not only just to talk to him, but to see my son and also my other son Nate and my daughter Stephanie and my wife that was incredible," said Stephenson.

The program is run by Department of Defense Dependents Schools in conjunction with the U.S. Army Europe command based in Germany. It was started in order to link up graduating students in the 18 DODDS across Europe with their deployed parents in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere, said Maj. Bob Isaac, officer-in-charge, VTC and Information Service Division, MNC-I.

"It shows the compassion of the command," said Isaac. "They are really looking to take care of the families back home."

Schools were provided the names of the deployed parents. If their child was gradu-

ating, the schools contacted the 5th Signal Command that contacted Isaac, and through the personnel departments here, the Soldiers were located out in the field, he said.

The program has performed 21 VTC graduations throughout the theatre of operations, eight of them at Victory Base Complex. This program is open to all branches of service and contractors deployed here, regardless of whether they belong to the USAREUR command or not.

"The technology is great, I am extremely happy with this," said Stephens.

Even though graduation season is coming to a close, this program will be available if any parents find themselves deployed during their child's graduation.

"They did this last year as well and they will continue to do it next year," said Isaac. "We will take the after action reports and try to make it better for next time."

Programs like this are put in place to ensure the war fighters and their families are taken care of in every aspect, said Isaac.

see GRADUATION, page 2

Camp Victory Three-day forecast

Wednesday



Sunny
High: 110 F
Low: 84 F

Thursday



Sunny
High: 111 F
Low: 85 F

Friday



Sunny
High: 112 F
Low: 85 F

In today's *Victory Times*:

Page 2: VBC celebrates Puerto Rican Day National Parade

Page 3: Chaplain's Corner

Page 5: Camp Victory operating hours

GRADUATION

"It is important that (commanders) truly do take care of the people," said Stephens. "They know the people are the fighting force; all the weapons systems and all that stuff doesn't function on its own."

This program does more than just support the servicemembers, it also focuses on the morale of family members, said both Isaac and Stephens.

"I think this meant a lot to my family, I think my son will remember this experience because of me being deployed and graduating over seas at a real small school,"

said Stephens. "Having the opportunity to hold a conversation with him after the ceremony was incredible."

No matter who gets more out of the experience, it works as a great boost to morale and a great way to ensure a monumental mo-



Proud father, Master Chief Petty Officer Stephen G. Boneau, officer-in-charge, Detachment 20, EOD Mobile Unit 8, watches his son Brian W. Boneau as he accepts his high school diploma in Italy. Stephens is serving in Iraq and was able to view his sons graduation through a video-tele-conference.

ment for both the child and the parent is not missed, said Isaac.

"Everybody thinks about what's going on back home," he added. "This is a once and a lifetime event you have for family. For (servicemembers) to be able to come in here and at least talk with their kids and family and watch the ceremony really makes them feel like a part of it. I think it's a great boost for morale."

VBC celebrates Puerto Rican Day National Parade

Story by Spc. Allison Churchill
Fires Bde. PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

Two Airmen won a Salsa dance contest and two Soldiers won a dominoes competition held Sunday night at the Scorpion Morale, Welfare and Recreation center.

The party was celebrated simultaneously with the 48th Puerto Rican Day Parade in New York City.

The New York Puerto Rican Day Parade, which was first held April 12, 1958, became the National Puerto Rican Day Parade in 1995.

The event is held in order to promote self-esteem and pride in Puerto Ricans living in the United States. Since its inception, the parade has spread to 48 other cities in the United States, according to nationalpuertoricandayparade.org/about.html.

In the days leading up to the parade in New York City, celebrants were treated to a dance and a dominoes tournament, as well as art and cultural events showcasing Puerto Rican talent.

At the dance contest in Baghdad, filmed for Telemundo, it seemed like pure enthusiasm led the Airmen to their victory.

"We only practiced together for 10 minutes," said Maj. Joel Young, director of communica-

tions, Iraqi Assistance Group, Multi-National Corps-Iraq, of his partner, 1st Lt. Mercedes Rodriguez, executive officer, C-2 operations.

Young, a Boston native, said he met Rodriguez, just days prior to the competition. Young started dancing in 2000 as part of the Brown University Ballroom Dance Team; Rodriguez said she started dancing with her family.

The team drew raves from the judges and audience members for constantly "changing it up," said Sgt. Maj. Luis Rosario-Febus, Special Troops Battalion, Multi-National Corps-Iraq, one of three judges for the dance contest.

Ten couples participated in the competition, each featuring at least one beginner level dancer. They were scored on visual presentation, rhythm, timing, technique, choreography, couple interaction, creativity and audience response. The categories were worth 10 points each,



Photo by Staff Sgt. Theresa Fike, MNC-I PAO

Maj. Joel Young, director of communications, Iraqi Assistance Group, Multi-National Corps-Iraq, and 1st Lt. Mercedes Rodriguez, executive officer, operations, intelligence, compete during a salsa contest at the Scorpion Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center June 11.

for a total of 70 from each judge.

For the first round of competition, the group of 10 couples was divided so only five would be on the floor at a time. Both groups danced to a three-minute song chosen by the judges.

Only five of the 10 couples made it to the second round, again dancing to a quick-paced three-minute song of the judges' choice. The field was narrowed three couples in the last round.

Young and Rodriguez won with 216 points; Staff Sgts. Jesus Rodriguez, supply non-commissioned officer, C-4, MNC-I and Brenda Martinez, paralegal specialist, staff judge advocate section, Headquarters, MNC-I, both of Monterrey, Mexico, came in second with 204 points; and third place went to Spc. Harry Ruiz, cable systems installer, Company A, Special Troops Battalion, 4th Infantry Division, and Sgt. Lorriane Pozas, operations noncommissioned officer-in-charge,

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, STB, 4th Inf. Div.

Ruiz, from Miami, and Pozas, a Tacoma, Wash., native, said they regularly danced in nightclubs around Fort Hood, Texas.

After judging the dance competition, Rosario-Febus went on to win the dominoes competition with teammate Staff Sgt. Luis Garay, command driver, MNC-I.

"Even though Staff Sgt. Garay and I have been playing dominoes together for a short time, the object of the game is assisting your partner to win," said Rosario-Febus.

In dominoes, two teams of two compete to be the first to win 500 points. Each player is dealt seven dominoes, or bones. Players match ends of the bones until they run out, rotating counter-clockwise. Points are earned through tallying the amount of spots on the bones left in the hands of all the players.

Party-goers who didn't compete were welcome to dance before, after, and in between the rounds of the dance contest to the sounds of Staff Sgt. Francisco Perez-Vasquez, Task Force 30th Medical Brigade, Heidelberg, Germany. The Scorpion MWR also offered a variety of games and food during the event.

Chaplain's corner

Disciplined Victory

The Lord has disciplined me severely, but he has not given me over to death. Open for me the gates of victory, that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord. Psalm 118:18-19

Yesterday I had the fortunate opportunity to be present as an NCO talked to his squad about discipline. Discipline has been a top priority in the serious preparatory training for our missions to ensure victory. Our every day, mission to mission lifestyle brings a continuous discipline that secures victory.

The young NCO made a point that discipline implies that we must first gain absolute control and victory over ourselves. Naturally we rebel against the hardships of discipline whether imposed by an NCO or the hardships which God has sent to us. We would prefer ease to hardship. David's life had much of trouble and tragedy, but he confessed that it was good for him. Saint Paul observed that only the disciplined runner reaches the goal and captures the prize. When soldiers or individuals have first won



CH (MAJ) Charles M. Herring
Religious Support Operations
MNC-I Chaplain Office

the victory over themselves, they have had the experience and power to have a large part in gaining a victory for others – NCOs training soldiers, parents raising children.

It is the disciplined soldier that enters the gates of victory. It is a victorious gate when a soldier completes basic training, earns jump wings or other specialty badges and may choose to pass triumphantly through further victorious gates with Sapper, Ranger or Special Forces tabs. God believes in our ability to achieve. While our hearts are glad, our spirits are humble. We know the price we have paid and know the meaning of disciplined victory. Each gate of victory is a prayer of thanksgiving

– to the disciplined hand of God – to the NCO who showed his soldiers the path to victory leads through discipline.

My prayer is that God will give me the grace to accept all disciplines (no matter how tough) placed upon my shoulders and spirit. May they purify my heart, give me the skill and strength to be victorious in His mission. May each discipline give me the endurance to win the victory over myself. Most of all, may I know that this is God's way to enhance and expand my life.

Letters from home

Lt. Col. Paul Whitecar, chief, clinical operations, Surgeons Office, MNC-I,
Happy Fathers Day! We Love and Miss You!
Love, Tamara, Ryan, Scott, Alexis and Elena and Mom too.

Camp Victory Education Center

Build 27B Texas RD
Camp Victory, Baghdad
APO, AE 09342



Will be closed
SUNDAY

June 18, 2006

(For monthly maintenance.)

June 24 & 25

(For SAT, ASVAB, AFAST, CLEP, DSST Testing)



Monday Night Karaoke

With Sean & Jason

@ Area 51 MWR building, 8 pm-12 am

THIS EVENT SPONSORED BY JASON REYES, SEAN FINCH, MNCI / STB AND MWR
For further details - jason.reyes or sean.finch@iraq.centcom.mil

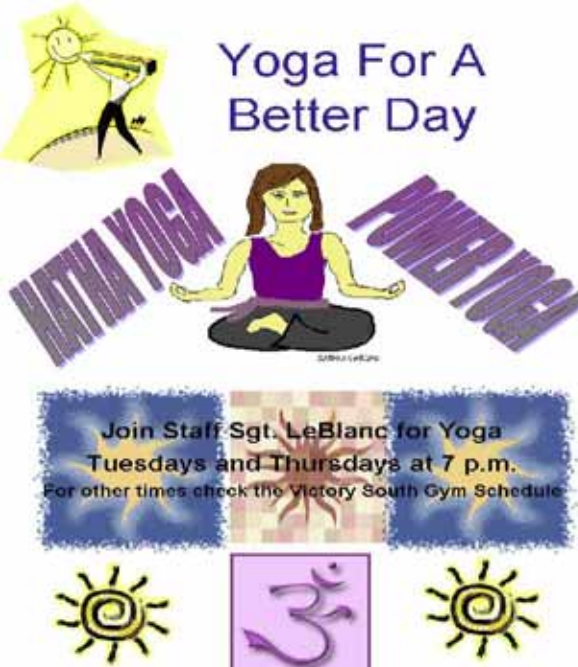
**TUNE IN TO
'OIF UPDATE'
EACH WEEK**

OIF

الله أكبر

UPDATE

ONLINE AT: WWW.MNCI.CENTCOM.MIL



Yoga For A Better Day

Join Staff Sgt. LeBlanc for Yoga
Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7 p.m.
For other times check the Victory South Gym Schedule

SAFETY ALERT

HEADQUARTERS
MULTI-NATIONAL CORPS-IRAQ
BAGHDAD, IRAQ
APO AE 09342

4 June 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Health Risks Associated with Dietary Supplements

SAFETY ALERT

- PURPOSE.** To review potential health risks associated with dietary supplements.
- BACKGROUND.** Several reports of side-effects associated with dietary supplements have surfaced in the deployed theater, including reports of abnormal heart rhythms and mental status changes.
- DISCUSSION.** Nutritional supplements are not regulated by the FDA. Most supplements marketed for weight lifters have limited or no proven benefit. Despite the fact that ephedrine containing supplements have been removed from the market, many supplements still contain potentially harmful ingredients such as high concentrations of caffeine or stimulants. Possible side effects from such agents include high blood pressure and abnormal heart rhythms. Caffeine has a diuretic effect that accelerates dehydration. The use of nutritional supplements with caffeine or other stimulants can put you at higher risk of becoming a heat casualty.
- RECOMMENDATIONS.** Dietary supplements are often associated with dehydration. Avoid dietary supplements containing high levels of caffeine or other stimulants (i.e. Yohimbine, Ginseng). Individuals taking supplements should reduce their risk by drinking plenty of water. Ensure that your health-care provider is aware that you are taking dietary supplements when seen for an appointment. Additional information can be found at the following websites: <http://cchpccrwww.apcs.mil/dhps> or <http://www.cchc.med.navy.mil>
- POC for the above is the Chief, Clinical Operations, MNC-I Surgeon's Office** (Paul.Whitecard@iraq.centcom.mil), at DSN 822-2414, or the Corps Senior Physician Assistant, MAJ Mangrobang (Ljose.Mangrobang1@iraq.centcom.mil).
- POC for the MNC-I C-1 Safety Office, LTC Newnam, Steve.Newnam@iraq.centcom.mil**, at DSN 822-2448.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

DISTRIBUTION:
IAW MNC-I (SJS) Form 1853: A



ENSURE WIDEST DISSEMINATION AND POST ON BULLETIN BOARDS
YELLOW HASH 06-17 POC MNC-I Safety Office, 822-4049

SAFETY ALERT

MNF-I/MNC-I
HUMAN RELATIONS/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
OFFICE

PRESENTS

PREVENTION OF SEXUAL
HARASSMENT(POSH) AND SEXUAL ASSAULT
PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROGRAM
(SAPR) TRAINING

LOCATION
AL FAW PALACE BALLROOM

DATES
JUNE 16, 28, & 30

TIMES
10am - Noon

POINT OF CONTACT FOR THIS TRAINING IS THE
MNC-I HR/EO OFFICE @ 822-3532/3545



Faces of Freedom

The children of Iraq are important to the future
and fate of this country.

Do you have any photo's of the Iraqi children?

If so, send them to james.hunter@iraq.centcom.mil
to have them published in the Victory Times.

Please provide information of who, what, when
and where.

Safety isn't a joke.
Take it seriously,
before you get turned over.

**BE SAFE
STAY ALIVE**

Risk Management

Risk management is a part of everything we do. Risk management is the process of identifying and controlling hazards and making risk decisions to protect the force. It is applicable to any mission or environment; on or off duty.

THE FIVE STEP RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS

- IDENTIFYING HAZARDS** to the force. Consider all aspects of current and future situation, environment and known historical problem areas.
- ASSESS HAZARDS** to determine risk. Assess the impact of each hazard in terms of potential loss based on probability and severity.
- DEVELOP CONTROLS AND MAKE DECISIONS** that eliminate the hazard or reduce risk.
 - Reassess hazards given the controls.
 - Determine the proper decision authority.
- IMPLEMENT CONTROLS** that will eliminate the hazard or reduce its risk.
- SUPERVISE AND EVALUATE.** Enforce standards and controls. Evaluate the effect of controls and adjust or update as necessary.

898th Medical Detachment (PM)

PRESENTS

UNIT FIELD SANITATION TEAM
CERTIFICATION TRAINING

40 hour training course

Class Dates:
July 24-27 (30 seats available)

Seats are on a first come first serve basis.

TO RESERVE SEATS PLEASE SEND
NAME, UNIT, PHONE NUMBER AND E-
MAIL ADDRESS TO:

Sgt. TIA SKERBECK
christia.skerbeck@iraq.centcom.mil
DSN 318-822-2851

Operating hours

Coalition Cafe

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Dinner 5:30 - 8 p.m.
Midnight Dining 11 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Sports Oasis

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Dinner 5 - 9 p.m.

Shoptette

Open 24 Hours

Camp Liberty Post Exchange

Everyday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Fitness Center

Open 24 Hours

Post Office

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday 1 - 5 p.m.

Golby Troop Medical Clinic

Sick Call Hours:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon
Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon

Dental Sick Call:

Monday - Friday 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Saturday 9 - 10:30 a.m.

Mental Health Clinic:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - noon

Post Deployment Health Briefings:

Monday - Friday 1 p.m.

Pharmacy:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon, 1 - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 7:30 a.m. - noon

Legal Assistance/Claims

Saturday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Personnel Service Support Centers

Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

ID Cards

Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Camp Victory Education Center
Building 27 B Texas RD
Camp Victory, Iraq

SAT Scholastic Aptitude Test

The Camp Victory Education Center is offering the SAT Sunday, June 25 2006

This will be the last SAT Date offered until September

Sign up at the Ed center before June 17. SAT examinations will be by first come first serve basis. There are only 25 slots for this exam.

The Education Center Will Be Closed June 24 and 25 for Testing



AL FAW PALACE POST OFFICE



HAS MOVED TO THE REAR OF THE PALACE IN THE BLUE CONNEX.

SEE DIRECTION SIGNS FOR NEW LOCATION DURING HOURS OF OPERATIONS SUN & WED 2 - 8 pm

Contact Camp Victory Post Office for any questions. DSN 318-822-2934/4694



MNC-I SURGEON'S COMBAT MEDICAL TRAINING CENTER

PRESENTS

COMBAT LIFESAVER CERTIFICATION COURSE

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT COURSE

EMT REFRESHER COURSE

Combat Lifesaver Certification Course
17 SEATS PER CLASS
2nd and 4th Thursdays of Every Month

Basic Life Support Course
10 SEATS PER CLASS
1st Friday and 1st Monday of Every Month

EMT Refresher Course
10 SEATS PER CLASS
3rd Monday of Every Month

To reserve a seat or for more information, contact:

Staff Sgt. Christopher J. Davis
Christopher.Davis@iraq.centcom.mil

DSN: 822-1230

**FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE
LOCATED AT BUILDING 5**

Worship Opportunities	
Victory Chapel (Bldg. 31)	
Sunday:	
Traditional Protestant Service 7 and 8:45 a.m.	
Roman Catholic Mass 10 a.m.	
Gospel Protestant Service noon	
Latter Day Saints Service 2 p.m.	
Episcopal/Lutheran Service 4 p.m.	
Contemporary Protestant Service 6 p.m.	
Saturday:	
7th Day Adventist Service 11 a.m.	
Roman Catholic Mass 8 p.m.	
Mini-Chapel (Bldg. 2)	
Monday - Friday	
Roman Catholic Service 4 p.m.	
Friday:	
Jewish Service 6:30 p.m.	
Saturday:	
Orthodox:	
Orthodox Vespers 5 p.m.	
Orthodox Confession 8:30 p.m.	
Orthodox Bible Study 7 p.m.	
Sunday:	
Orthodox Divine Liturgy 9 p.m.	

Submit letters from home

Is your loved one deployed in support of Multi-National Corps-Iraq? Would you like to write him or her a message in the Victory Times? Send messages, three to four lines of text to brian.anderson@iraq.centcom.mil. Ensure to include Soldiers name, rank, and unit.

Victory Times welcomes columns, commentaries, articles and letters from our readers. Send submissions or comments to jason.baker@iraq.centcom.mil.

We reserve the right to edit for security, accuracy, propriety, policy, clarity and space.

Situational Awareness Leads To A Safer Training Environment.



Pre-mission planning, controls for diminished conditions, and attention to detail are essential for successful mission accomplishment.

MNC-I Commanding General: Lt. Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli
MNC-I Public Affairs Officer: Lt. Col. Michelle L. Martin-Hing
MNC-I PA Sergeant Major: Sgt. Maj. Paul J. Stevenson
MNC-I Command Info Chief: Sgt. 1st Class Laurence R. Lang
MNC-I Production Chief: Staff Sgt. Jason B. Baker
Victory Times Staff writers/ photographers: Spc. Brian James Anderson, Spc. Curt Squires, Spc. James P. Hunter, Lance Cpl. Drew Hendricks

Victory Times is an authorized electronic publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of this electronic publication are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. Government or the Department of Defense. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Public Affairs Office of Multi-National Corps Iraq.